

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE <u>AMENDMENT "C"</u>

APPLICANT(S):

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EXAMINER: Delma R Ruiz

TITLE:

"METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR REDUCING THE PUMP

LIGHT AT THE EXIT OF A FIBER LASER"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

SIR:

ant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D. C. 20231

In response to the Office Action of October 23, 2002, the following is submitted:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 9-16 without prejudice.

Please substitute new claims 17-28 as follows:

A method for reducing pump light in a region of a laser light exit of a compry the type of providing said laser resonate film a 17. laser resonator fiber formed of a fiber core and which is surrounded by a pump fiber -comprising an inner fiber portion which in turn is surrounded by a sheath; comprising the steps of:

providing a last section of said pump liber preceding said laser light exit, so that to allow substantal remaining to escape from at least a portion of the sheath is not provided to reduce pump light from being unpofiber and thus to

emitted with the laser light at said laser light exit.

The method according to claim 17 including the step of at least partially 18. stripping said last section of said sheath.